To the Chairman and Members of the
Wareham Urban Sanitary Authority
Wareham.

Gentlemen

I have the honor to submit for your perusal, my report on the health and sanitary condition of the Borough of Wareham for the year ending December 31st 1848.

I have made a careful inspection of this Borough on several occasions

At 4 cottages in Church Lane I condemned the Vault Closets, being thoroughly out of repair, and advised the use of Earth Closets, which are about to take the place of those condemned.

The Gutter under the footpath leading from Brewery Lane, which was constantly flushed while the Brewery was in working order, but has since become a nuisance, has been replaced by a new gutter which has remedied the evil.

The drain to take away the surface drainage round the Red Lion Hotel corner, is not sufficient to carry it away, and I strongly advise a relief drain to go down South Street

During the year 1848, 29 Deaths occurred in the entire borough; this gives, in a population of 2141 a death rate of 13.5 per 1000.
In Wareham alone, not including the Workhouse, only 19 deaths occurred, which makes the death rate at the low figure of 8.8 per 1000. which I am sure speaks for itself as to the health of the town, and upon which we ought to congratulate ourselves.

Of these 29 deaths
2 were under the age of 1 year
3 " " " " " 25 years
8 " " " " " 65 years
16 of the age of 65 and upwards

5 were due to Heart Disease
4 " " " Bronchitis } Pneumonia
1 from Phthisis

1 which occurred at the Workhouse from Typhoid Fever was contracted out of the district. The remainder from Old Age and ordinary diseases

There have been 47 Births during the year

The drainage of this town is carried out under the cesspool system. A new and commodious water cart for flushing purposes and watering the streets is a great improvement on the last one.

I am very glad to report that a water supply has been found for the town which is both good in quality and quantity and it is now only a matter of time, before the town will be supplied with such water. The source is from the top of Worgret Hill, a distance of a mile and a quarter from the town. The health of the town for the whole year has been almost unequalled.

I am Gentlemen
Your obedient Servant

Medical Officer of Health

Wareham
Mar 3/99.